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What is claimed is:

- 1. In a carrier recovery system in a digital demodulator, a frequency compensation method, comprising:
- (i) at an input of a phase error detector, reducing, by a down-sampling factor, sampling of signals received from a phase derotator and a slicer from a symbol rate to a down-sampled rate;
 - (ii) detecting a carrier lock condition at the down-sampled rate;
 - (iii) determining outputs of a phase accumulator at the down-sampled rate;
- (iv) extrapolating extrapolated outputs between successive determined outputs to generate addresses to a symbol rate look-up table; and
- (v) looking up compensating frequency and phase compensation offsets for input to the phase derotator at the generated addresses.
- 15 2. The frequency compensation method of claim 1, further including determining the down-sampling factor such that a predetermined maximum allowable pipeline delay is not exceeded.
- 3. The frequency compensation method of claim 2, wherein determining the down-sampling factor is based on the symbol rate.
 - 4. The frequency compensation method of claim 2, wherein determining the down-sampling factor is based on a data channel condition.
- 5. The frequency compensation method of claim 2, wherein determining the down-sampling factor is programmed by an air interface processor.
 - 6. The frequency compensation method of claim 1, wherein extrapolating the extrapolated outputs includes determining a gradient of the phase accumulator outputs.

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- 7. The frequency compensation method of claim 1, wherein generating the addresses includes combining the phase accumulator outputs and the extrapolated outputs.
- 8. The frequency compensation method of claim 7, wherein generating the addresses includes reformatting the combined phase accumulator outputs and extrapolated outputs.
 - 9. A carrier recovery system for a digital receiver, comprising:
 - a phase derotator for derotating a signal received from an equalizer;
 - a slicer, communicating with the phase derotator, for providing a quantized decision of the signal; and
 - a feedback loop having down-sampling means for reducing by a down-sampling factor, sampling of signals from the phase derotator and the slicer from a symbol rate to a down-sampled rate;
 - a phase error detector for detecting phase errors at the down-sampled rate;
 - a loop filter, a carrier acquisition control and carrier recovery lock detector for determining a carrier lock condition;
 - a phase accumulator for providing outputs at the down-sampled rate;
 - a look-up table address generation unit for extrapolating extrapolated outputs between the phase accumulator outputs to provide look-up table addresses at the symbol rate; and
 - a symbol rate look-up table for generating, by reference to the look-up table addresses, compensating frequency and phase compensation offsets for input to the phase derotator.
- 10. The carrier recovery system of claim 9, wherein the down-sampling means includes means for determining the down-sampling factor such that a predetermined maximum allowable pipeline delay is not exceeded.
 - 11. The carrier recovery system of claim 10, including means for determining the down-sampling factor based on the symbol rate.

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- 12. The carrier recovery system of claim 10, including means for determining the down-sampling factor based on a data channel condition.
- 13. The carrier recovery system of claim 10, wherein the means for determining the down-sampling factor is programmable.
 - 14. The carrier recovery system of claim 9, wherein the look-up table address generation unit includes a gradient computation unit for determining a gradient of the outputs of the phase accumulator.
 - 15. The carrier recovery system of claim 14, wherein the gradient computation unit includes means for combining the outputs of the phase accumulator and the extrapolated outputs.
- 16. The carrier recovery system of claim 14, wherein the gradient computation unit includes means for reformatting the combined phase accumulator outputs and extrapolated outputs to provide the look-up table addresses.
- 17. The carrier recovery system of claim 9, wherein the look-up table address generation unit includes a multiplexer unit for providing the look-up table addresses to the symbol rate look-up table.